

432 Sqdn, 17th Bomb. Gp.
A.P.O. 6507 Postmaster N.K.
April 18, 1944

Hiya Joe,

Here it is, - a nice day just
for writing letters. - It's sorta
damp out, I've got a nice fire
going in our stove, just had a
shower, and haven't got a
damn thing else to do! - Now
what more requirements do
I need? - Oh - - something
to write about! - Just a minor
thing when I write a letter -
and for proof of it - just
see if you can gather any
real news out of this one
after I have it finished!

Just got a V mail from Sister
saying Ma had received a
notice of my air medals! - Didn't

2!
--! even know that that was
done! - Well, live and learn. Since
~~the~~ these ~~awards~~ awards I've had
about 37 other sorties that
could be mentioned too! - Only
I don't know how many air
medals that entails for at
present they are changing the
awarding of them - and one person
in authority thinks it should be
thus & such, while another thinks
it should be another way. - So
they just bat it back and
forth while we go on qualifying
for them - but no one knows
exactly what he is doing when
he qualifies! - Have you ever
heard the expression and explanation
of "SNAFU"? - Well, this is a
typical example. - So what? -
None of us care a hoot for

medals and awards. We just want to get our jobs done and see our "going home" orders.

As soon as they get our "transport" plane ready I'm supposed to take it on a trip to Africa on some business. - Going somewhere around Oran. - I spent about 3 weeks there last May - so should have no trouble at all finding my way around! - Our transport is one of our old 26's stripped down of all unnecessary equipment, as it's not used for combat any more (put out to pasture, sort of). It's quite a ship - cruises at about 30 to 50 miles per hour faster than our regular ones - and that usually makes a "fair to median" ground speed! - I don't especially care to go - as I always get irritated over travel as a transient - eating in transient messes and sleeping

4! in any old bed - usually uncomfortable
and not enough covers! - (Godness -
I seem to have bitter views on
every subject! I don't really -).

I'm not flying missions near
as often as I used to, but any
at all is too much. - That is one
thing I can stop now and have no
regrets. I'm just fortunate - one of
these days I'll probably find myself
"visiting" practically every day. -

Well, you should have been
around camp last night. - It seems
a "wet front" moved thru our officers
club and this morning all the
bottles were empty! The occasion
was in celebration of 30 years
1 yr. overseas! - I didn't participate
to any degree tho. - Can't afford to
'cause the stuff they get here
gives me a touch of diarrhea every
time and I've been "frequent"

5!

often enough with that malady without offering it any encouragement. — Enough is enough!

Haven't heard a word more about our most important subject. — He are discussing it all the time but don't let it get us down. — When we do hear word tho - I'll let you know within a "couple of months" when I'm going to arouse you from whatever task you might be doing and come and get me! — Maybe I ought to spend my first day home in a hotel with some of your private stock within easy reach? —

Enclosed is an article I found that expresses all our views of this argument of whether or not "it's Spain!" — Keep 'em crossed — and I'll keep looking out for my royal? —
Joseph.